

# GUIDE FOR PIANO INSTRUCTION FOR THE EDUCATIONALLY BLIND

by

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## PREFACE

Music offers a leisure time activity that can bring pleasure, relaxation and companionship to all people. As a motor skill, piano is easily taught to a visually impaired person since the correct body movements are immediately reinforced and strengthened through auditory perception of the music. The handicap of blindness becomes in one respect a positive force as it frees the student to concentrate on the sound rather than the mechanical task of "pressing" the right key.

The skills which will lead to fluency at the piano are (1) awareness of keyboard topography, (2) knowledge of music theory and (3) dexterity of movement. A printed sequential teaching plan is necessary which will evaluate progress in these areas and adapt proven teaching methods using nonvisual cues.

### Materials Needed

#### FOR INSTRUCTOR:

One text - Beginning Piano for Adults  
by James W. Bastien and Jane Smisor Bastien  
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One guide - Course of study adapting the above text

#### FOR STUDENT:

Cassette or reel-to-reel tape recorder with supply of blank tapes for assignments.

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